



January 16, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division, Department of Justice
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Ms. Hesse,

I am extremely troubled by the idea of the courts rejecting the settlement currently on the table in US v. Microsoft. I believe a rejection of the settlement will have a seriously negative impact on the research and development coming out of the technology industry right now.

Microsoft, as a company, invests more resources than any other company in the software industry on research and development. They fund companies across the world with their research and development efforts as well. Because of this case and the insecurity it has caused in the technology industry and among Microsoft brass, money being infused into research and development is considerably less than it should be.

I am very confident that, should the settlement be accepted, resources will continue to flow back into research and development. It is that research and development which fuels the growth of the technology industry.

The courts decision on this matter has the potential to affect the software and technology world for years. I hope that you will accept the settlement and clear the way for the computer industry to get back to business.

Sincerely,


Deborah Krause
President / CEO

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